AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 40. (Canceled)

41.   (Currently Amended) A method for restricting communication in a wireless communication device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a phone number into the wireless communication device;

requesting a current global positioning system (GPS) location from a global positioning system (GPS) functional device contained within the wireless communication device;

receiving the current GPS location from the GPS functional device;

determining a current physical location of the wireless communication device utilizing the current GPS location; a global positioning system (GPS) functional device contained within the wireless communication device;

utilizing a controller in the wireless communication device to determine if the current physical location matches at least one authorized physical location stored in a memory of the wireless communication device;

utilizing a controller to determine if at least a portion of the received phone number matches at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory;

utilizing a controller to determine if a parameter associated with the geographic characteristic stored in the memory indicates that the geographic characteristic is an approved geographic characteristic, the parameter being independent of the physical location of the wireless communication device; and

permitting one of a placement of a phone call to the received phone number and a receipt of the phone call from the received phone number only if the current physical location matches the at least one authorized physical location and if the at least the portion of the received phone number matches the at least one geographic

characteristic and if the geographic characteristic is an approved geographic characteristic.

42.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the at least one geographic characteristic is an area code, and the at least the portion of the received phone number is an area code.

43.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the phone number is received from a user interface of the wireless communication device.

44.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one unauthorized physical location is stored in the memory; further comprising:
        blocking one of the placement of the phone call and the receipt of the phone call if the at least one unauthorized physical location matches the current physical location.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one unauthorized geographic characteristic is stored in the memory, further comprising:
        blocking one of the placement of the phone call and the receipt of the phone call if the at least the portion of the received phone number matches the at least one unauthorized geographic characteristic.

46.   (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device, comprising:
        a memory for storing at least one area code, a location independent parameter associated with the at least one area code, and at least one authorized location;
        a user interface for inputting an outgoing number into the wireless communication device, the outgoing number having an outgoing area code;
        a wireless interface circuit for receiving an incoming phone number corresponding to an incoming call to the wireless communication device, the incoming phone number having an incoming area code;
        a global positioning system (GPS) device for determining a current physical location of the wireless communication device;

a processor connected to the memory, the user interface, the wireless interface circuit and the GPS, the processor <u>configured to request the current physical location from the GPS device and receive the current physical location from the GPS device, and further configured to allow</u> ~~allowing~~ one of a placement of an outgoing call to the outgoing number and receipt of the incoming call only if the at least one authorized location matches the current physical location and only if the at least one area code matches one of the incoming area code and the outgoing area code, and only if the parameter associated with the at least one area code indicates that the at least one area code is an authorized area code.

47.   (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device of claim 46, wherein at least one unauthorized location is stored in the memory; and
        wherein the processor blocks one of the outgoing call and the incoming call if the at least one unauthorized location matches the current physical location.

48.   (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device of claim 46, wherein at least one unauthorized area code is stored in the memory; and
        wherein the processor blocks one of the outgoing call and the incoming call if the at least one unauthorized area code matches one of the incoming area code and the outgoing area code.

49. – 54.   (Cancelled)

55.   (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the current GPS location is an absolute GPS position.

55.   (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the current GPS location is a relative GPS position.

56.   (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory comprises local toll charges. (spec, P.7)

57.   (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory comprises long distance charges. (spec, P.7)